

C O U N T Y O F H A W A I I



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Chapter 127, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, as amended, and Chapter 128, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, as amended, provide for the establishment of County organizations for disaster relief with a deputy director in charge of each political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i has been appointed as the Deputy Director of Civil Defense of the County of Hawai'i; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 7, Articles 1 and 2 of the Hawai'i County Code, establishes a Civil Defense Agency within the County of Hawai'i and prescribes its powers, duties, and responsibilities, and Section 13-23 of the Hawai'i County Charter empowers the Mayor of the County to declare emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i has been under an emergency proclamation by then Mayor Stephen K. Yamashiro since January 30, 1998, as amended on May 19, 1998, July 22, 1999, and March 14, 2000, because of serious drought conditions which have caused severe fire hazards and water shortages; and

WHEREAS, despite infrequent rains, drought conditions occurring in the other districts of Hawai'i Island have spread to Puna, South and North Hilo and Hamakua, to encompass the entire Hawai'i Island;

WHEREAS, the National Park Service, Hawai'i County Fire Department, and the Department of Public Works have classified the districts of Puna, Hamakua and parts of Hilo as extreme fire threats due to the dry conditions caused by the drought; and

WHEREAS, the United States Farm Service Agency indicates that the upper slopes of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa are extremely dry, causing a hardship on farmers and ranchers in those affected areas; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service expects the current trade showers to diminish over the next few days; and

WHEREAS, rainfall data indicates that in some of the affected areas rainfall is 50% below normal; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Supply has issued additional water conservation notices for the areas of North and South Kona, Ka'u, and parts of North and South Kohala.

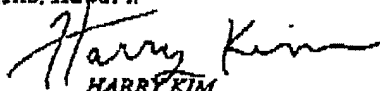
NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY KIM, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim and declare that a state of emergency exists for the entire Hawai'i Island.

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED THAT this proclamation bans all outdoor fires within Hawai'i Island, excluding fires permitted under the authority of the State of Hawai'i Department of Health, and also excludes the following types of fires:

- (1) rubbish fires contained or enclosed within a closed and screened metal container suitable for such purposes, and*
- (2) open fires for cooking of food; and*
- (3) campfires involving the combination of five pounds or less total weight of combustible matter at any one time.*

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED THAT the purpose of this declaration is to support the Department of Water Supply's emergency policies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have herewith set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 1st day of July, 2003 in Hilo, Hawai'i.


HARRY KIM
 Mayor
 County of Hawai'i